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CBC Newsletter

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For members of the Carolina Bird Club, Inc., ornithological society of the Carolinas

Volume 54 August 2008 Number 4

Spring Meeting Participants Explore Southern Pines!

Susan Campbell

We had a great first weekend in May for the spring meeting of the Carolina Bird Club in Southern Pines! Thanks go out to all of the volunteers who made it possible. Well over 100 CBC members participated in 28 trips around the Sandhills of North Carolina. The weather was fabulous, and folks seemed to have a great time. We recorded approximately 121 species over the four days of the meeting. Webmaster Kent Fiala has posted the list at the CBC web site (www.carolinabirdclub.org). The variety included winter lingerers like Common Loon (Woodlake), Red-breasted Nuthatch (All American Trail) and both White-throated and Swamp Sparrows. We also had a good variety of migrants such as Merlin (Woodlake), Bobolink (Raft Swamp Farms, Hobby Field), Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Black-throated Blue Warbler, and Worm-eating Warbler (Weymouth Woods). There were local specialties including Mississippi Kite (Howell Woods, Raft Swamp Farms), Horned Lark (Camp Mackall), Kentucky Warbler (Howell Woods), Swainson's Warbler (Howell Woods, Diggs Tract), Grasshopper Sparrow (Hobby Field), Lark Sparrow (Camp Mackall) and Bachman's Sparrow (Sandhills Game Land). Red-cockaded Woodpeckers put on quite a show at several sites, as expected. Participants also enjoyed some unusual views of familiar birds such as the female Pileated Woodpecker in the mist net at Weymouth Woods and the Eastern Screech-Owl in a cavity at Reservoir Park.

Eastern Screech-Owl
Bruce Smithson

One of the few disappointments of the weekend was the lack of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers at Hobby Field for the meeting, but we remain hopeful they will (re) appear soon.

Swainson's Warbler
Bruce Smithson

It was great to see old friends here in town--as well as a number of new faces. Looking forward to Wilmington in October!

2008 Fall Meeting Information Inside!

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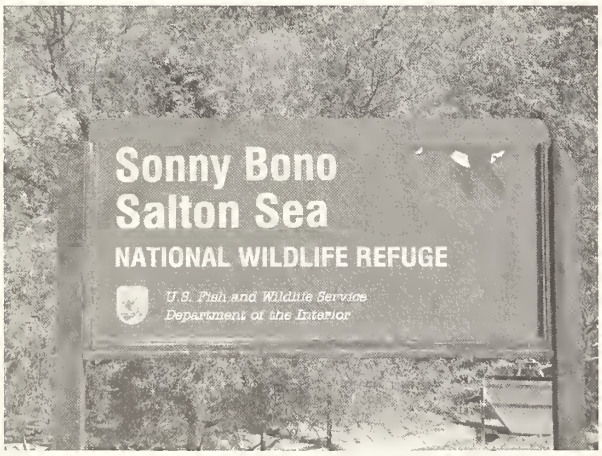
California Dreaming

Merrill Lester

Dream along with me! No, not to Disneyland but to the near fantasy experience of CBC birding in Southern California. Even Walt himself couldn't have provided a script better than that furnished by leaders Bruce Smithson and Linda Kolb in searching out plenty of California and Western specialties, not to mention rarities, all against the varying and splendiferous scenery of Southern California. Other members of our troop were David Lenat, Terry Anderson, Cornelia Carrier, Mary Ann Kolb, Stephen Harris and myself. Despite our lengthy travel, we arrived eager to bird and managed a trek through the agitated streets of L.A. to garner our first objective, the Spotted Dove. Appetites whetted, we hurried back to the coast for such treats as Black Oystercatcher, Surfbird, Brandt's Cormorant and Black Turnstone. The end of that first long day of travel and birding found us driving into the night to Ventura where an early morning boat trip would take us to Santa Cruz of the Channel Islands; target: the Island Scrub-Jay. Despite storied expectations of stepping off the boat to a welcoming flock of the jays, the bird proved elusive and it took an uncomfortably long time before a single specimen finally took pity and showed itself. Fortunately, the bird proved something of a ham and allowed us quite close for pictures. More than compensating for the scarcity of jays were some great views of Allen's Hummingbird.



While our trip out to the island had been fairly uneventful, other than for Pelagic Cormorant and several large gatherings of Clarke's Grebe, the trip back was interrupted by an encounter with Humpback Whales, two adults and one calf, that allowed us to tag along with them for some time. Steaming toward port again, we were next treated to an explosion of Common Dolphins leaping from the sea around us, many of which were happy to crowd right up against our boat and continue their feeding. Their activity in turn inspired a further feeding frenzy of birds streaming out from the coast to join in the pickings. No stopping this time, as we were running late, but despite the 'hang-on' conditions, we were able to pick up a few pelagics, including Xantus's Murrelet.

The next day found us working back down the coast and inland to Julian. Birds of interest along the way included: Mew Gull, California Towhee, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Lewis's Woodpecker, Violet-green Swallow and California Gnatcatcher. Julian is an old mining town, and we stayed in a nicely restored B&B, arriving in time for a late afternoon tea! Two nights and two good dinners, in different restaurants, all topped off the last night by one of Julian's signature, local treats, freshly baked apple pie - a la mode no less - ah, the taste buds still respond! Oh yes, birding, well then, Oak Titmouse, White-headed Woodpecker, Mountain Chickadee, Steller's Jay and Wrentit were among some nice finds during our stay.

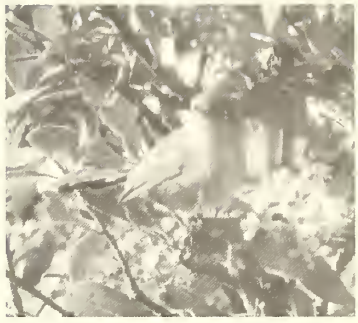
I should note that the weather was delightful our entire trip with cool nights and warm, clear days. Julian was at a higher elevation, so the layers of early morning clothing tended to stay on a little longer; not so on our departure, as we crossed the Anza-Borrego desert on our way to the Salton Sea. Species highlights picked up along the way were: Hutton's Vireo, Verdin, Sage Sparrow, Black-throated Sparrow, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher and the spectacular Costa's Hummingbird. Our time spent in and around the Salton Sea NWR was, simply put, filled with birds. Among them were: Crissal Thrasher, Gambel's Quail, Abert's Towhee, Yellow-footed Gull, "California" Brown Pelican,

California Dreaming (continued)

CBC members in prime California Gnatcatcher habitat

Gila Woodpecker, Gray Flycatcher, Cactus Wren, 'Belding's' Savannah Sparrow, Rock Wren and the ever popular Greater Roadrunner.

One highlight of the trip was spent at an observation tower on the refuge as the afternoon sun began its descent behind a range of mountains (possibly the Vallecito) in the distance. Initial entertainment was provided by a not-so-stealthy 'Yuma' Clapper Rail that gave us several great views as it sallied back and forth amongst some reeds right in front of us. Additional fun occurred in picking out a few Yellow-headed Blackbirds amongst flights of Red-winged Blackbirds passing over our heads to their roosts. All the time, we were keeping our eyes on a flock of Sandhill Cranes spotted in the distance. As the sun continued to lower and send out flaring rays of ever-deepening red into the sky, the cranes began to perform a pre-flight dance, first singly, then in groups and finally in waves that quickly lifted them into a magnificent line of flight and chorus of calling that carried across the wetlands between us. Holding our gaze as they winged their way through the lingering glow and quietude of sunset to their watery redoubt, there the moment and essence of our journey. Superb as a finale, we yet had an encore in store as our final day in San Diego awaited. How wonderful the lush vegetation, if only it had about a tenth the population! Understandably, plenty of people were out enjoying the beautiful Saturday that we were there. Even so, we were able to wend our way to several enjoyable spots. At ocean-side Torrey Pines Reserve, we picked up Golden-crowned Sparrow, California Thrasher and White-throated Swift. Moving on to La Hoya Pt. we claimed the Wandering Tattler along with a beach full of lazing seals. In other neighborhoods, we came across the truly Elegant Tern, Red-crowned Parrot, Red-masked Parakeet and even chased down a Painted Redstart.



California Gnatcatcher

Winding up the day and trip we dined, fittingly enough, at a Mexican restaurant (not the first!), where in addition to the food, we were able to savor a trip list that topped two hundred birds. Most of us had several 'lifers' as well to reflect back on, along with an abundance of other enjoyable memories. Kudos to Bruce and Linda for their patience and helpfulness in making the trip such a great success, the rest of my fellow travelers for their good company and also to CBC for sponsoring such great trips. No stairway to the stars, nor even a wish upon a star, still I'd say our dreams did come true!

Welcome New Members!

Kimberly Brand
Winston-Salem, NC

Pat Chappell
Chapel Hill, NC

Virginia Charlton
Hickory, NC

Grady Culbertson
Darlington, SC

Dorene Enlow
Heath, OH

William Guptill
Charleston, SC

J. J. Godwin
Sturgeon Bay, WI

Cathy King
Winston-Salem, NC

Kali Ona Luitjen
Marshall, NC

Nona Valiunas
Sullivan's Island, SC

Rebecca Wood
Chapel Hill, NC

Carol Lemley Montgomery
Kure Beach, NC

Thomas & Tamara Sanders
Charlotte, NC

Michelle Smith
Eric Scholz
Carrboro, NC

James & Sherry Smithwick
Wagram, NC

Mike & Peggy Eubank
Kill Devil Hills, NC

Deceased Member

Jane Wilds

CBC Bonus Trips: A Chance to Bird With Old Friends and Make New Ones in Fun Places Around the Carolinas and Beyond!

The CBC is pleased to promote several bonus in and out-of-state field trips for 2008. Information on the out-of-state trip announced in the previous edition of the Newsletter is reproduced below. As always, contact the trip leaders for more information and to reserve your place on the trip. These offerings fill up fast, so act soon to avoid disappointment!

Peru - November 30-December 9, 2008
Ventures is offering a special trip to Peru (Abancay, Cuzco & Machu-Picchu) for CBC members. This tour is a perfect short trip for an introduction to some of Peru's outstanding birds and scenic areas. We start with coastal birding in the Lima area for species such as Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle, Variable Hawk, Croaking Ground-Dove, Oasis and Amazilia Hummingbirds and Peruvian Meadowlark. A visit to the famous Inca ruins of Machu-Picchu provides the opportunity to bird some very good subtropical, temperate cloud forest, as well as looking for some of the rarest birds on earth in the Polylepis woodlands. Possibilities include Line-fronted Canastero, Ash-breasted Tit-tyrant (endemic), White-browed Tit-Spinetail (endemic), Tawny Tit-Spinetail, Giant Conebill, Stripe-headed Antpitta, and Andean Tapaculo. We'll also take in the Apurimac endemics near Cuzco, an area not on regular Peru birding itineraries. Sightings may include Apurimac Brush Finch, "Ampay Tapaculo", Streak-backed and Rusty-fronted Canastero, and White-eared Puffbird.

On this trip we stay at comfortable country inns throughout, and all are convenient to the best birding spots. The food is very good and the people very friendly. If you have never been to South America before, this introductory tour to Peru will open your eyes to the beauty and diversity that is South America. With the recent publication of the new *Birds of Peru*, this is now an excellent time to visit this incredibly diverse country. Cost per person is **$3,395 with a single room supplement of $495.** The cost includes: domestic flight back from Lima to Cuzco and return, transportation throughout, all accommodation, meals (except where specified), entrance fees and gratuities (except for leader/guide), trip information packet & bird checklist, and guide/leader service throughout. Not included in the cost are: international flight to Lima, airport departure tax, alcoholic beverages, any meals not specified in the itinerary, laundry, and other items of a personal nature.

Reservations and prepayment are required on all Ventures. A $300 deposit for the trip is required to reserve your spot. Please make your check payable to Ventures, Inc. and send it to the address below. MasterCard and Visa are also accepted. This trip is limited to 10 participants. For more information, or to reserve your spot on this Ventures, Inc. trip, contact Simon Thompson at: Ventures, PO Box 1095, Skyland NC 28776. The phone is 828-253-4247. E-mail: travel@birdventures.com

CBC Member Goes Retail!

Simon Thompson, long-time CBC member, Executive Committee member, and co-owner of Ventures, Inc. birding tours has yet another hat to wear beginning this spring/summer. Simon and partner Chris Jaquette recently celebrated the grand opening of their Wild Birds Unlimited franchise in the Asheville/Skyland/ Hendersonville area. Simon was quite pleased when a guest to the shop commented "this is not your average cookie-cutter bird store!" and says he plans for the location to be THE one-stop birding and bird feeding store in western North Carolina. Already visitors have access to a wide variety of bird and birding related products in addition to the significant knowledge Simon and Chris can bring to bear on all subjects feathered. The next time you are in the Asheville area, Simon would love for you to stop by and say "Hi!". Granted, he may be in South America or the wilds of Asia leading an intrepid group of birders, but he just might be able to regale you with stories from trips past or provide advice on how to best attract avian friends to your yard.

"Fall" Into Fun With the CBC in Wilmington!

The Carolina Bird Club, is planning an exciting and fun-filled event when Wilmington, North Carolina hosts the 2008 edition of the fall meeting the weekend of October 3-5, 2008. The event is co-sponsored by Cape Fear Audubon and the Lower Cape Fear Bird Club.

Spanning a variety of habitats throughout the coastal plain of southeastern North Carolina, field trips are planned to excellent birding spots including Ft. Fisher, Carolina Beach State Park, Bald Head Island, Sunset Beach, Southport, Ft. Caswell, Oak Island, Airlie Gardens, Wrightsville Beach, Greenfield Lake, Holly Shelter W.M.A. and Poplar Grove Plantation. Early October should be a great time to search for fall passerine migrants (including a variety of warblers), sparrows, migrating and arriving wintering shorebirds and waterfowl, and specialty birds of southeastern North Carolina including Wood Stork and Red-cockaded Woodpecker. A well-timed early fall cool front could make for some very interesting and exciting birding at local "migrant traps". In addition to the more traditional birding trips, the planning committee arranged for a boat trip up the Black River (a fun and different way to experience the Lower Cape Fear River's bird life) and a pair of guided flat-water kayak trips.

After full days of birding on Friday and Saturday, the fun is just beginning. Evening programs at the host hotel provide an opportunity to mix and mingle with fellow CBCers from across the area as well as learn more about the nature of the Carolinas, especially southeastern North Carolina. Our Friday night speaker will be **Jeff Pippen** of the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University. Jeff does research in plant physiology and ecology and teaches natural history. His butterfly photos have been published in a number of field guides and magazines. Jeff's presentation "Coastal Wings and Things: Butterflying Southeastern North Carolina" will include nature's best from butterflies and other insects, to wildflowers, reptiles, and birds that may be encountered on area field trips. **Dr. James F. Parnell** is our Saturday night speaker. Dr. Parnell will present an overview of fall migration in southeastern North Carolina. James is professor emeritus at UNC-W and co-author of books on birds, mammals, and fishes of the Carolinas. Dr. Parnell taught in the Biology Department at UNC-W and conducted research on coastal birds from the late 1960s into the 1990s. Jeff and James are excellent wildlife photographers, which will make their presentations very special. The Friday evening meeting will be preceded by a social hour beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The headquarters for the fall meeting will be at the Holiday Inn, 5032 Market Street, Wilmington, NC (please note there are other Holiday Inn properties in the Wilmington area, be sure you reserve the *Market Street* location). The phone number is 1-800-833-4721. Be sure to mention the Carolina Bird Club meeting in order to receive the special rate of $79 plus 13.75% tax. The rate includes a hot breakfast beginning at six o'clock each morning and is good for Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Make your reservations no later than September 2 in order to receive the special meeting rate. Other motels in the area include Comfort Suites, Days Inn, Quality Inn, Ramada, Wingate and Sleep Inn. Note that Riverfest will be held the same weekend as our meeting. Accommodations may fill faster than usual, so don't delay in making your reservations.

Following a recent tradition, we are planning a group buffet dinner at the Holiday Inn for Saturday evening at six o'clock featuring sliced seasonal fresh fruit, "Grand Trio" salad with choice of 2 dressings, bowtie pasta salad, one meat entrée (either traditional London Broil with Bordelaise sauce or Mahi Mahi - island style with lemon butter), new potatoes or rice, seasonal vegetables, rolls and butter, chef's dessert assortment, coffee, and iced tea. The cost of the meal will be $24.50 (including tax and gratuity) and is payable with your meeting registration. The deadline for preregistration for the buffet is September 26. For special needs contact Ed Toone at (910) 686-5035. There is a line on the registration form to indicate how many seats you wish to reserve at the dinner. For those choosing to eat on their own, the Market Street location offers easy access to a variety of restaurants, both elegant and casual.

See you in Wilmington!

Wilmington Fall Meeting Field Trip Schedule

Friday, October 3

All Day Trips
Trip 1: Ft. Fisher/Carolina Beach State Park 6:30
Trip 2: Bald Head Island* 6:30
Trip 3: Sunset Beach/Brunswick County 6:40

Morning Half-Day Trips
Trip 4: Carolina Beach State Park 7:30
Trip 5: Ft. Caswell/Oak Island 6:30
Trip 6: Airlie Gardens 7:15
Trip 7: Holly Shelter/Poplar Grove TBD
Trip 8: Migration Hot Spots 7:10
Trip 9: Rice's Creek Kayak Trip 6:45

Afternoon Half-Day Trips
Trip 10: Ft. Fisher 12:45
Trip 11: Greenfield Lake 1:00
Trip 12: NE Cape Fear River 12:30
Trip 13: Boiling Spring Lakes Preserve and Central Brunswick County 12:50
Trip 14: Black River Boat Trip* 1:00

*All trips except for #2, 14, 16, and 29 leave from the meeting headquarters hotel. Trips 2 & 16 meet at the Bald Head Island ferry landing in Southport. Trips 14 & 29 meet at the N.C. Battleship Memorial.

Saturday, October 4

All Day Trips
Trip 15: Ft. Fisher/Carolina Beach State Park 6:30
Trip 16: Bald Head Island* 6:30
Trip 17: Sunset Beach/Brunswick County 6:40

Morning Half-Day Trips
Trip 18: Carolina Beach State Park 7:30
Trip 19: Ft. Caswell/Oak Island 6:30
Trip 20: Airlie Gardens 7:15
Trip 21: Holly Shelter/Poplar Grove TBD
Trip 22: Migration Hot Spots 7:10
Trip 23: Boiling Spring Lakes Preserve and Central Brunswick County 7:00
Trip 24: Rice's Creek Kayak Trip 6:45
Trip 25: Oakdale Cemetery 7:40

Afternoon Half-Day Trips
Trip 26: Ft. Fisher 12:45
Trip 27: Greenfield Lake 1:00
Trip 28: NE Cape Fear River 12:30

Sunday, October 5

Trip 29: Black River Boat Trip* 8:30 a.m.

Field Trip Descriptions

Trips 1, 15 – Fort Fisher/Carolina Beach SP:
This area, dubbed "Pleasure Island" by the chamber of commerce, is a great place to find both land and sea birds as they are funneled down the peninsula during fall migration. The Ft. Fisher area we will bird begins just south of the former Air Force station and continues along Hwy. 421 to its terminus at Federal Pt. and the "Rocks." North of the town of Carolina Beach is the State Park, and both areas will be covered on the all-day trips. In both areas we expect to see warblers, tanagers, thrushes, vireos, buntings, and arriving wintering sparrows. Gulls, terns, shorebirds, waders, pelicans, and raptors will be sighted as well.

Trips 2, 16 – Bald Head Island:
Bald Head Island is a barrier island located at the mouth of the Cape Fear River and a 40-minute drive from Wilmington. Migrants find all kinds of habitat to suit their needs including salt marshes, maritime forest, and miles of dunes and beach. We can expect to see shorebirds, terns, skimmers, songbirds (including warblers), possibly Painted Buntings, waders, Clapper Rail, and raptors. Depending on the weather, be prepared to see alligators, foxes, butterflies, dragonflies, dolphin, and spectacular scenery. We'll bird the island in open golf carts and do some walking on the beach and in the woods, so bring along a light jacket as it can be windy and bug spray just in case. Access to Bald Head Island is by a 20-minute ferry ride. Plan to take the 7:00 a.m. Bald Head Island Ferry; the cost is $15 for a round-trip ticket. Arrive at the Bald Head Island Ferry terminal at 6:30 to allow time for parking ($7 in Lots B and C and $6 in Lot D) and purchasing a ferry ticket. The ferry WILL NOT wait. On the other

side, we'll meet Juanita Roushdy, our island resident and guide. Either bring a sandwich or we can buy one at the Maritime Market grocery and deli on the island.

Trips 3, 17 – Sunset Beach/Brunswick County:
Sunset Beach is known for its large colony of Wood Storks, night herons, and other waders roosting on the Twin Lakes and foraging on nearby mudflats. In addition to these target birds, post-breeding wanderers such as Roseate Spoonbills (very rare) and Reddish Egrets may be present. The itinerary will include several Sunset Beach and Ocean Isle Beach areas as well as other South Brunswick sites, depending on bird activity. Good numbers of migrating shorebirds and songbirds should be found.

Trips 4, 18 – Carolina Beach State Park:
Home to a large population of Venus Flytraps, Carolina Beach SP has earned a reputation for being a prime migration hotspot. An early fall cold front can leave the trees and bushes dripping with warblers, thrushes, vireos and other migrants.

Trips 5, 19 – Ft. Caswell/Oak Island:
Join this uber-birding tour of Oak Island! From the lawns of Ft. Caswell on the east end to Lockwoods Folly Inlet on the west and the salt marshes and woods in between, participants will be treated to migrating shorebirds, raptors, sparrows, and songbirds plus waders, terns, and gulls. Overwintering species will have started arriving. Ft. Caswell is the next hop for migrants moving south from the Ft. Fisher/Bald Head Island migrant trap. Many species of shorebirds may be found on the massive lawns after heavy rains or during high tide. American Golden Plover and "grasspipers" are possible. Many species of warblers plus other migrating songbirds may be found in the woods. Waterbirds in large mixed flocks at the southern tip of Oak Island could include up to five tern species and dozens of Black Skimmers. *Note there is a $3 admission to Ft. Caswell payable at the time of the trip.*

Trips 6, 20 – Airlie Gardens:
Airlie is a hundred year old estate now owned by the county as a public garden. Featuring heritage plants including beautiful Live Oaks (one is 461 years old), several large ponds, maritime forest, shrubs and a salt marsh along Bradley Creek, the well kept paths provide wonderful opportunities to see migrating songbirds, some raptors, shorebirds, and waterfowl. *Note there is a $5 admission to the gardens payable at the time of the trip.*

Trips 7, 21 – Holly Shelter/Poplar Grove:
With an entrance located 4 miles north of Hampstead, the Game Land contains over 10,000 acres of longleaf pine forest that is home to 52 colonies of Red-cockaded Woodpecker as well as Bachman's Sparrows and Northern Bobwhite. Other possibilities include flycatchers, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Pine Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Blue Grosbeak and maybe a Henslow's Sparrow. Holly Shelter also contains insectivorous plants such as pitcher plants, Venus Flytraps, and sundews. On the way back to town, if time permits, we should stop at Scott's Hill to visit the Abbey Nature Preserve, which is part of the 60-acre historic Poplar Grove Plantation. There is a well marked trail through a pine/hardwood forest with open fields and a mill pond.

Trips 8, 22 – Migration Hotspots:
The itinerary for this whirlwind tour will be developed on-the-fly based on the most current sightings and Rare Bird Alert information. Potential sites include many that are otherwise not on the meeting's trip schedule, and may include Wilmington International Airport plus Veteran's, Dobo, and Halyburton Parks. In addition to migrating shorebirds and songbirds, Upland and Buff-breasted Sandpipers are always possibilities at the airport and the playing fields.

Trips 9, 24 – Rice's Creek Kayak Trip:
Paddle a primordial blackwater creek in Brunswick County. Many woodpeckers are possible. Kingfishers, Red-shouldered Hawks, Barred Owls, herons and egrets, and migrating warblers are likely. Other wildlife likely to be encountered include butterflies, dragonflies, whirligig beetles, and otters. Reptiles, including sliders and painted turtles, alligators, brown water snakes, rainbow snakes, and cottonmouth moccasins, may be spotted. Paddlers will also be treated to beautiful wildflowers including the indigenous Cape Fear Spatterdock. Level: Easy to Moderate lasting 2.5 to 3 hours. Beginners are welcome. Kayak, paddle, life jacket and basic instruction included in the $45 per person fee. For those using their own equipment, the fee is $25. Each trip is limited to 12 paddlers, the rain date is Sunday, October 5, and the deadline to pre-register is **September 15**. Participants will depart the

(Continued on page 8)

Holiday Inn at 6:45 a.m. and carpool to the launch site. All should wear shoes that can get wet, bring drinking water and snacks, and bring personal emergency medication as required. Note that the fee for this trip must be paid in advance and is non-refundable except for cancellation due to weather and if the rain date is also unavailable due to weather.

Trips 10, 26 – Ft. Fisher:
These half-day trips explore the Fort Fisher area as described under Trips 1 and 17. Note the Carolina Beach State Park area is NOT covered during this trip.

Trips 11, 27 – Greenfield Lake:
This scenic lake, located within the city of Wilmington and surrounded by bald cypress, hardwoods, and pines, can produce interesting bird sightings during migration. Herons, egrets, coots, moorhens, Wood Ducks, Anhinga, and Pied-billed Grebes are to be expected. Migrant warblers, thrushes, vireos, and flycatchers should be found in addition to the resident woodpeckers, nuthatches, wrens, and chickadees.

Trips 12, 28 – NE Cape Fear R. at Holly Shelter:
The dike along the NE Cape Fear may be a better birding spot during breeding season, but after an October cold front it can be an exciting birding place too. The mile-long dike runs between the river and a swamp-forest floodplain. We'll hope for a Northern Waterthrush, some American Redstarts, Black-and-white and other lingering and migrant warblers. Barred Owl, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-headed, Pileated and Hairy Woodpecker, White-breasted Nuthatch and Wood Ducks can be found year round.

Trips 13, 23 - Boiling Spring Lakes Preserve and Central Brunswick County
We will begin by exploring the inhabitants, plant ecosystems, and the natural history of The Nature Conservancy's Boiling Spring Lakes Preserve. We will then cover ditch banks and road sides of central Brunswick County to Rice's Creek. Our targets will be anything that moves and many that don't! Butterflies, birds, dragonflies, insectivorous plants, and wildflowers are examples. Bring your camera with macro lens and close-focus binoculars if you have them. The Boiling Spring Lakes nature trail offers much more than birds. It is a great place to find wildflowers such as Meadow Beauty, Sand Myrtle, and Narrow-leaved Sabatia; hard-to-find Pine Woods Treefrogs and other herps; and Venus Flytraps, pitcher plants, and sundews. Boiling Spring Lakes is a "hotspot" for woodpeckers…it hosts the seven resident species of woodpeckers that breed in North Carolina plus it serves as winter home for the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. The woodpecker with local "rock star" status, of course, is the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker. The dirt roads to Rice's Creek will feature many species of wildflowers in full bloom with butterflies, bees, and other insects hanging all over them, ideal for macrophotography!

Trips 14, 29 - Black River Boat Trip:
The oldest known trees east of the Rocky Mountains can be found on this meandering blackwater stream: a stand of 1700-year-old bald cypress. North Carolina designated the river an Outstanding Resource Water in 1994. It is home to rare fish species and many rare mussels. Bobcat, river otter, Black Bear and songbirds inhabit its floodplain. The river rises south of Clinton, NC and flows 66 miles before emptying into the Cape Fear River north of Wilmington. Our trip will be a 4-hour relaxing getaway through miles of scenic wilderness. We will board the boat "Capt. Maffitt" from the Battleship North Carolina Memorial at 1:00 p.m. on Friday afternoon and 8:30 a.m. on Sunday morning. ($30.00 fee/person)

Trips 25 - Oakdale Cemetery:
Oakdale Cemetery is among the earliest "rural" cemeteries in the country. Authorities recognize Oakdale for its aesthetic richness and historic significance. Its diverse assemblage of monuments, statuary, and funerary art, as well as its fine collection of flora and fauna put it at the forefront of the state's historic treasures. After early October cold fronts, the cemetery can be good for migrant warblers and other passerines. Veeries and Swainson's Thrushes can be found then, as well as the resident Gray Catbirds and Brown Thrashers.

Departure Times

Most morning trips depart in staggered fashion between 6:30 and 7:30 a.m. Most afternoon trips depart between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. and are also staggered to reduce congestion and confusion in the staging area. **Please check the registration desk at the meeting hotel to verify the specific time that your field trips are scheduled to depart and to ensure that no last minute changes have been made.**

CBC Fall Meeting and Trip Registration Form

Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Evening phone _____ Email _____

I am enclosing $_____ for the following:

Wilmington Fall Meeting

Meeting Registration (Member) ____ x $15 = $ _____
Meeting Registration (Non-member) ____ x $20 = $ _____
Saturday Buffet Dinner (each) ____ x $24.50 = $_____

*To pre-register for field trips, place the trip number(s) in the boxes to the left.

Field Trip Sign-Up	A.M. 1st/2nd Choice	P.M. 1st/2nd Choice	All Day 1st/2nd Choice
Friday	/	/	/
Saturday	/	/	/
Sunday		None	None

Club policy requires all field trip participants to comply with the field trip leader's assessment and requests concerning the physical ability of each participant to make or complete the trip. Meeting registration at the door costs $25.

I release and discharge (and will not make a claim against) Carolina Bird Club for injury, death, or property damage arising from my participation at this meeting and/or Club field trips. This release of liability is entered into on behalf of all members of my family, including all minors accompanying me. I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of any such minors and that I am over 18 years of age.

Signature_____ Date_____ Signature_____ Date_____

Make check payable to Carolina Bird Club and send to: CBC, 353 Montabello, Bloomingdale, IL 60108

☐ Please update my address or other contact information as listed above

Additional Registration Form for Kayak and Black River Boat Trips

*Complete this form and return with the specified payment if you are signing up for trips 9, 14, 24, or 29

Forms must be received no later than September 15, 2008

Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Evening phone _____ Email _____

I am enclosing $_____ for the following:

____Trip 14 (Friday Black River) ____ @ $30
____Trip 29 (Sunday Black River) ____ @ $30
____Trip 9 (Friday kayak) ____ @ $45* Circle the boat type you prefer: single double
____Trip 24 (Saturday kayak) ____ @ $45* Circle the boat type you prefer: single double

(Please note that there will be a limit of 12 participants on each kayak trip)

*Participants furnishing their own kayaks pay $25 each instead of $45. Check here if you are bringing your own boat and enclose $25 per participant. ☐

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Upcoming CBC Meetings

NC's "Inner Banks", Jan. 29-Feb 1, 2009
Clemson, SC Spring 2009

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SCBirder@aol.com

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